IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

Ashley T. Adams,

Plaintiff,

v.

Integrity Staffing

aka Pepper Hamilton, LLP

Dawn Harper, et al., Civil Action No. 05-249 (KAJ)

Randstad Staffing Services,

Woman of India nationality, et al.,

JP Morgan Chase Bank One,

Cheryl Denneny, et al., FILED ELECTRONICALLY

Ernest & Young,

Scott Gallagher, et al.,

Defendants.

MOTION OF DEFENDANT, CHERYL DENNENY, TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6), Defendant, Cheryl Denneny, by her undersigned counsel, moves to dismiss the Complaint of Plaintiff, Ashley T. Adams, with prejudice. In support of Defendant's Motion, the Court is respectfully referred to the accompanying memorandum of law.

Respectfully submitted,

FOX ROTHSCHILD LLP

/s/ Neal J. Levitsky, Esquire #2092

NEAL J. LEVITSKY, ESQUIRE #2092

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(302) 654-7444

Counsel for Defendant, Cheryl Denneny Dated: May 26, 2005

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:

Defendants. :

MEMORANDUM OF LAW OF DEFENDANT, CHERYL DENNENY, IN SUPPORT OF HER MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT

I. INTRODUCTION AND FACTS

Plaintiff, Ashley T. Adams ("Plaintiff" or "Adams"), alleges in her Complaint, in relevant part, that Defendants, Cheryl Denneny ("Denneny")¹ and JPMorgan Chase Bank (incorrectly identified in the Complaint as "JP Morgan Chase Bank One"), discriminated against her due to her race, color, national origin and gender, retaliated against her, and subjected her to a hostile work environment in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 ("Title VII"). (See Plaintiff's Complaint).

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¹ Denneny is an employee of Defendant, JPMorgan Chase Bank. It is not clear from Plaintiff's Complaint whether Denneny is a named defendant because, while she is named in the caption, there are no substantive allegations made against her in the body of the Complaint. Notwithstanding the fact that it is not clear from Plaintiff's Complaint that she is a defendant in this matter, in an abundance of caution, Denneny will assume for purposes of this Motion that Plaintiff names Denneny as a defendant in the instant action.

There is no individual liability under Title VII. Accordingly, Adams's claims against Denneny must be dismissed with prejudice.

II. <u>ARGUMENT</u>

A. Standard of Review

In analyzing a motion to dismiss pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6), the court must accept as true all material allegations of the complaint and it must construe the complaint in favor of the plaintiff. See Trump Hotels & Casino Resorts, Inc. v. Mirage Resorts, Inc., 140 F.3d 478, 483 (3d Cir. 1998). Dismissal under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6) is based on the complaint and is limited to those instances where "it appears beyond doubt that the plaintiff can prove no set of facts in support of [her] claim which would entitle [her] to relief." Conley v. Gibson, 355 U.S. 41, 45-46 (1957) (footnote omitted); see also In re Rockefeller Ctr. Props., Inc. Sec. Litig., 311 F.3d 198, 215 (3d. Cir. 2002). Although the Court must accept well-pleaded allegations in Adams's Complaint as true, the Court need not accept as true her bald assertions or legal conclusions. Id. at 215-16.

B. There Is No Individual Liability Under Title VII and, Accordingly, <u>All</u> <u>Claims Against Denneny Must Be Dismissed.</u>

Plaintiff asserts in her Complaint that Denneny violated Title VII by discriminating and retaliating against her and harassing her. (See Plaintiff's Complaint). It is well-settled that there is no individual liability under Title VII. In Sheridan v. E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Co., 100 F.3d 1061, 1078 (3d Cir. 1996), the Third Circuit held that individual employees cannot be held liable under Title VII. Since then, this Court consistently has held that there is no individual liability under Title VII. See Charlton v. Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Delaware, No. CIV. A. 99-34-GMS, 2001 WL 694533, at * 2 n. 5 (D. Del. June 20, 2001); Nelson v. Fleet National Bank, 949 F.Supp. 254, 258 (D. Del. 1996).

As such, Adams's claims against Denneny must be dismissed in their entirety with prejudice.

III. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

Because there is no individual liability under Title VII, the Complaint of Plaintiff, Ashley

T. Adams, must be dismissed as to Defendant, Cheryl Denneny, in its entirety with prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,

FOX ROTHSCHILD LLP

/s/ Neal J. Levitsky, Esqure #2092 NEAL J. LEVITSKY, ESQUIRE #2092 919 North Market Street, Suite 1300 P.O. Box 2323 Wilmington, DE 19899-2323 (302) 654-7444

Counsel for Defendant, Cheryl Denneny

Date: May 26, 2005

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its entirety with prejudice.

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Defendants.

ORDER

AND NOW, this day of , 2005, upon consideration of the Motion of Defendant, Cheryl Denneny, to Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint, and any response thereto, it is hereby ORDERED that Plaintiff's Complaint is dismissed as to Defendant, Cheryl Denneny, in

BY THE COURT:
Kent A. Jordan, United States District Judge

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Neal J. Levitsky, Esquire, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Motion to Dismiss of Defendant, Cheryl Denneny, was served upon the following parties, this date, via first class mail:

> Ashley T. Adams 716 North Barrett Lane Christiana, DE 19702 Plaintiff

Integrity Staffing 220 Continental Drive, Suite 102 Newark, DE 19713-2107 Defendant

Ernst & Young 5 Times Square New York, NY 10036 Defendant

Randstad Staffing 111 Continental Drive, Suite 201 Newark, DE 19713-2107 Defendant

> /s/ NEAL J. LEVITSKY, ESQUIRE #2092 NEAL J. LEVITSKY, ESQUIRE #2092

Dated: May 26, 2005